



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of:**

Terry L. Gilton

**Serial No.:** 09/177,814

**Filed:** October 23, 1998

**For:** SEPARATION APPARATUS  
INCLUDING POROUS SILICON COLUMN

**Confirmation No.:** 3621

**Examiner:** G. Gabel

**Group Art Unit:** 1641

**Attorney Docket No.:** 2269-3530.3US  
(97-1257.00/US)

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence along with any attachments referred to or identified as being attached or enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail on the date of deposit shown below with sufficient postage and in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

January 21, 2004  
Date

*Debra L. Mitchell*  
Signature

Debra L. Mitchell  
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**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty to disclose information material to patentability pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents are enclosed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g) and (h), filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as

defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Further, no representation is made by Applicant herein that no other possible material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 (b) exists.

U.S. Patent Documents

| <u>U.S. Patent No.</u> | <u>Publication Date</u> | <u>Patentee</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| US – 5,407,534         | 04/18/1995              | Thakur          |
| US – 5,623,243         | 04/22/1997              | Watanabe et al. |
| US - 5,634,974         | 06/03/1997              | Weimer et al.   |
| US - 5,721,171         | 02/24/1998              | Ping et al.     |

Applicant offers to supply any explanation or discussion of the documents which the Examiner feels is necessary or desirable and which is requested.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

The fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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**Complete if Known**

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|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Application Number     | 09/177,814                    |
| Filing Date            | October 23, 1998              |
| First Named Inventor   | Terry L. Gilton               |
| Group Art Unit         | 1641                          |
| Examiner Name          | G. Gabel                      |
| Attorney Docket Number | 2269-3530.3US (97-1257.00/US) |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner<br>Initials * | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                            | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of<br>Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                        |                          | Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                        |                          | US-5,407,534                               | 04/18/1995                     | Thakur                                             |                                                                                 |
|                        |                          | US- 5,623,243                              | 04/22/1997                     | Watanabe et al.                                    |                                                                                 |
|                        |                          | US- 5,634,974                              | 06/03/1997                     | Weimer et al.                                      |                                                                                 |
|                        |                          | US- 5,721,171                              | 02/24/1998                     | Ping et al.                                        |                                                                                 |
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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